

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 09764 181159Z

64

ACTION EA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1757

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 9764

E.O. 11652 GDDS

TAGS: JA, ELAB, XC

SUBJECT: DOMEI PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS ON JOINT ACTION WITH AFL-CIO IN SEASIA

1 . AT LUNCHEON HOSTED BY AMB HODGSON JUL 18 FOR DOMEI PRESIDENT AMAIKE AND FOUR OTHER EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS, AMAIKE CONFIRMED THE AMB THAT DOMEI COMMITTED TO WORKING JOINTLY WITH AFL-CIO TO STRENGTHEN FREE TRADE UNIONISM IN SE ASIA. AMAIKE SAID THIS DECISION REACHED AT MAY CONSULTATIONS WITH AFL-CIO. AMAIK ADDED THAT AFL-CIO AND DOMEI AGREE THAT IN WAKE OF POLITICAL AND MILITARY TRANSFORMATION IN INDOCHINA, DEMOCRATIC TRADE UNION MOVEMENTS IN NON-COMMUNIST SE ASIAN COUNTRIES ARE FACING CRITICAL CHALLENGE.

2. IN SEPARATE CONVERSATION WITH LABATT AMAIKE SAID THAT EXACT STRUCTURE OF NEW AFL-CIO DOMEI JOINT EFFORT IN SE ASIA STILL UNDER CONSIDERATION. AMAIKE ASSUMED AHT AAFLI (AMERICAN-ASIAN FREE LABOR INSTITUTE) AND ICFTU'S ARO (ASIAN REGIONAL ORGANIZATION) WOULD BE PRIMARY SOURCES OF TALENT FOR FORTHCOMING JOINT EFFORT. DOMEI NOW ACTIVELY CONSULTING WITH ARO ON THIS MATTER.

3. COMMENT: AMAIKE LEFT STRONG IMPRESSION THAT DOMEI DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT VIABILITY OF NON-COMMUNIST SE ASIAN UNIONS. WHILE DOMEI FULLY COMMITTED IN PRINCIPLE TO JOINT ACTION WITH AFL-CIO SPECIFIC PROJECTS AND MECHANISMS YET TO BE DISCUSSED.

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PAGE 02 TOKYO 09764 181159Z

HODGSON

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NNN

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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